MTS-3205US

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

Masahiro Takatori et al.

: Art Unit:

2664

Serial No.:

09/662,432

: Examiner:

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

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Technology Center 2600

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 and to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application is requested to consider and make of record the references listed on the Form PTO-1449 (RP) submitted herewith. A copy of each of the listed references is also enclosed.

Although the information submitted herewith may be "material" to the Examiner's consideration of the subject application, this submission is not intended to constitute an admission that such information is "prior art" as to the claimed invention.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made.

The following Japanese reference is not in the English language:

1) JP 2000-232627

Reference 1 includes an English language abstract and English translation of Figure 3.

Reference 1 was cited in an official action by a foreign Patent Office in a patent application corresponding to the above-identified patent application. A copy of the official action with a partial English translation is enclosed.

No first Official Action has yet been received and it is presumed that none has yet been mailed. No fee or certification is required. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b).

Respectfully submitted,

RatnerPres

Allan Ratner, Reg. No. 19,717 Attorney for Applicants

AR:kc

Enclosures:

Form PTO-1449

(1) Reference

(1) Official Action

Dated: February 4, 2003

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Deposit Account No. 18-0350 of any fees associated with this communication.

The Assistant Commissioner for Patents is $\ I$ hereby certify that this correspondence is being hereby authorized to charge payment to deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D 20231 on: